The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was <u>not</u> written for publication and is <u>not</u> binding precedent of the Board.

Paper No. 18

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

MAILED

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U.S PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES Ex parte YOSHIKAZU KUROSE

Appeal No. 2004-1527 Application No. 09/283,231 RECEIVED

FEB 2 3 2005

DIRECTOR OFFICE TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

HEARD: January 27, 2005

Before BARRETT, BARRY, and BLANKENSHIP, <u>Administrative Patent Judges</u>.

BLANKENSHIP, <u>Administrative Patent Judge</u>.

DECISION ON APPEAL

This is a decision on appeal under 35 U.S.C. § 134 from the examiner's final rejection of claims 1-40, which are all the claims in the application.

We reverse.

9).

BACKGROUND

The invention relates to three-dimensional computer graphics, and in particular to a type of parallel processing of pixels known as "polygon rendering." Circuit operation is stopped for particular pixels that need not be processed in the parallel operation, in order to reduce power consumption relating to what are, in effect, invalid operations. Representative claims 1 and 11 are reproduced below.

1. An image processing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of pixel processing circuits, each provided for processing each of a plurality of pixel data to be processed simultaneously, for processing a plurality of input pixel data in parallel; and

a control circuit for stopping the operation of at least one of said pixel processing circuits when the processing of said pixel data to be processed in the pixel processing circuit is not needed.

11. An image processing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of pixel processing circuits, provided for a plurality of pixels to be processed simultaneously, for blending a plurality of first pixel data and a corresponding plurality of second pixel data by blending ratios indicated by a blending ratio data set for each pixel to produce a plurality of third pixel data; and

a control circuit for judging whether or not said pixel processing circuits will perform said blending and stopping the operation of said pixel processing circuits when judging that said blending will not be performed.

The examiner relies on the following references:

Dawson et al. (Dawson) 5,179,638 Jan. 12, 1993

Huxley 5,742,796 Apr. 21, 1998

(filed Mar. 24, 1995)

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Duluk, Jr. (Duluk)

5,977,987

Nov. 2, 1999

(filed Jul. 26, 1996)

Kiyoto Kozaiku (Kiyoto)¹

9-130570

May 16, 1997

(Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application)²

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10, 22-24, and 26-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Dawson and Kiyoto.

Claims 4, 9, 25, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Dawson, Kiyoto, and Duluk.

Claims 11-13, 15-19, 21, 31-33, 35-38, and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Dawson, Huxley, and Kiyoto.

Claims 14, 20, 34, and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Dawson, Huxley, Kiyoto, and Duluk.

We refer to the Final Rejection (Paper No. 9) and the Examiner's Answer (Paper No. 12) for a statement of the examiner's position and to the Brief (Paper No. 11) and the Reply Brief (Paper No. 13) for appellant's position with respect to the claims which stand rejected.

¹ For consistency with the record, we will refer to the reference by what appears to be the inventor's first name.

² An English translation has been provided by USPTO S.T.I.C. Translations Branch.

OPINION

35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of claims 1-3, 5-8, 10, 22-24, and 26-29 over Dawson and Kiyoto

Appellant acknowledges that Dawson describes processing of pixels in parallel, in addition to "polygon rendering" as described in the background section of the instant specification. Appellant argues that Dawson, consistent with the background specification section, performs processing on all of the plurality of pixels in a predetermined block regardless of whether the pixels are inside the polygon. Appellant submits that Kiyoto fails to remedy the deficiency of Dawson, because in Kiyoto the image clock signal is inhibited for an entire processing block, rather than selected pixels or pixel processing circuits within a processing block. (Brief at 9-11.) Appellant also argues that the teachings of Kiyoto do not apply to three-dimensional computer graphics and the like, which use polygon rendering techniques. (Brief at 11.)

The examiner responds (Answer at 15) that it is "inherent" in Dawson that the pixels lying outside the polygon not be processed, since they would not be rendered. Kiyoto is "mainly cited" to teach the step of inhibiting power supply to at least one of the pixel processing circuits that did not receive valid data. The response appears to be inconsistent, however, with the statement of the rejection (Answer at 4-5), which finds that Dawson fails to teach stopping the operation of the pixel processing circuits for pixels that do not lie within the unit graphics, and that Kiyoto teaches a method to

prevent useless power consumption by stopping application of an image clock signal to a processing block not in use.

We find that Kiyoto relates to image forming devices such as color digital copying machines. Kiyoto (English translation) at 6. Kiyoto teaches, as described in particular at pages 16 through 26 of the translation, avoiding useless power consumption by stopping the processing by selected image processing blocks -- the operation is stopped by prohibiting a clock signal to the selected block -- when a block is not needed for the present device mode. For example, the machine may be in standby or display mode (p. 24, bottom), and not need the processing contributed by particular processing blocks (e.g., gamma correction block 207; Fig. 2).

We see no reason, on this record, why the teachings of Kiyoto could not be considered to apply to the field of three-dimensional graphics, including apparatus for polygon rendering. However, we are persuaded by appellant, for other reasons, that the references fail to show <u>prima facie</u> obviousness of the claimed subject matter.

The rejection relies (e.g., Answer at 4) on the teaching at column 6, lines 64 through 66 of Dawson, which relates that rendering engine 34 interpolates the "interior" points. The rejection appears to hold that Dawson inherently recognizes pixels that need not be processed, based on the reference to "interior" points. In any event, even assuming the finding of inherency to be correct, Dawson does not provide sufficient detail with respect to the internal operation of the processing blocks (e.g., texture engine 30; Fig. 5) to support contemplation of stopping the operation of selected pixel

processing circuits within the "engines" described by the reference. In our estimation, a plurality of pixel processing circuits, each provided for processing each of a plurality of pixel data to be processed simultaneously, that are suitable for having operation thereof stopped in accordance with the teachings of Kiyoto, must first be shown as being taught in the prior art before proceeding to the conclusion that the prior art suggests stopping such operation. In light of the references applied, a suggestion for stopping the operation of selected pixel processing circuits within the functional blocks described by Dawson could only arise after a study of appellant's teachings in the instant specification.

We observe, however, that instant claim 1 calls for stopping the operation of "at least one" of the pixel processing circuits when the relevant circuit is not needed. The terms of the claim are met when all of the pixel processing circuits within a processing block are stopped when none of the circuits are needed. For example, when processing 8 pixels in parallel, the claim covers instances of from 1 to 8 parallel processing circuits being stopped. The claim is thus broad enough to cover the case of an entire engine of Dawson being stopped when its particular contribution is not needed -- consistent with the teachings of Kiyoto -- regardless of how the processing of individual pixels may occur in the respective engine. The rejection before us, however, does not suggest that any processing engine as described by Dawson, in its entirety, may not be necessary during some system applications.

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Because each of independent claims 6, 22, and 27 recites limitations similar to those of claim 1 for which the rejection falls short, we do not sustain the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-8, 10, 22-24, and 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Dawson and Kiyoto.

35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of claims 4, 9, 25, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Dawson, Kiyoto, and Duluk

We do not sustain the rejection of dependent claims 4, 9, 25, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Dawson, Kiyoto, and Duluk. The claims incorporate the limitations of claims 1, 6, 22, and 27, respectively. Duluk does not remedy the deficiency of the rejection applied against the independent claims.

35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of claims 11-13, 15-19, 21, 31-33, 35-38, and 40 over Dawson, Huxley, and Kiyoto

Instant claim 11 requires stopping the operation of pixel processing circuits when judging that blending will not be performed. The rejection (Answer at 8-9) relies on Huxley for teachings relating to an alpha blend unit, described at column 61 of the reference and shown in Figure 5. Appellant argues (Reply Brief at 6-7) that Huxley teaches that alpha blending circuitry operates even when alpha blending is disabled.

Huxley discloses, as described at column 61, an alpha blend unit shown in Figure 5. Huxley describes two cases in which alpha blending is not performed. If an

alpha buffer is not present, then an alpha value of 1.0 is used. If alpha blending is disabled, than the color message is passed through unchanged. We agree with appellant that Huxley teaches, in both cases, operation of the alpha blend circuitry, even though the resulting color message may not be affected by any blending component. The rejection does not show how individual pixel processing circuits may be stopped when blending is not to be performed.³

We thus cannot sustain the § 103 rejection of claim 11, nor of claim 31, containing similar language.

The rejection also relies on Huxley for the teachings relating to "depth data," as recited in instant claim 17. (Answer at 11-12.) Appellant argues (Brief at 18-19) that Huxley appears to teach the opposite of stopping the operation of the corresponding pixel processing circuit when a judgement is made not to rewrite pixel data.

Huxley describes a depth test unit (col. 51, l. 24 et seq.) for determining if buffers are to be updated. However, we agree with appellant that Huxley appears to teach that pixel processing occurs notwithstanding whether the buffers are to be updated (e.g., col. 7, ll. 8-15). We are mindful that the rejection relies on Kiyoto for the teaching of stopping unnecessary circuit operation. However, the rejection does not identify any hint of circuitry in Huxley related to the depth data, producing a plurality of second pixel

³ Consistent with the examiner's apparent interpretation of the claims, we consider "stopping the operation" of a pixel processing circuit to require more than effecting a null result with respect to the circuit operation, thus distinguishing over the null result described by Huxley.

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data from a plurality of first pixel data, that <u>could be</u> stopped in accordance with the teachings of Kiyoto.

We therefore cannot sustain the § 103 rejection of claim 17, nor of claim 36, containing similar language.

The remaining independent claims (16, 21, 35, and 40) contain limitations relating to features not shown as being disclosed or suggested in the prior art -- features we have addressed <u>supra</u> in our consideration of the rejection of claims 11 and 17, or in our consideration of the separate rejection against claims 1-3, 5-8, 10, 22-24, and 26-29. The additional reliance on the Huxley reference fails to remedy the basic deficiencies in the rejection.

We are thus persuaded that the examiner erred in rejecting claims 11-13, 15-19, 21, 31-33, 35-38, and 40 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Dawson, Huxley, and Kiyoto.

35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of claims 14, 20, 34, and 39 over Dawson, Huxley, Kiyoto, and Duluk

The remaining claims incorporate the limitations of (at least) independent claims for which a case for <u>prima facie</u> obviousness has not been established. Because the references as applied do not remedy the deficiencies in the rejection set forth against the independent claims (11, 17, 31, and 36), we do not sustain the rejection of claims

14, 20, 34, and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Dawson, Huxley, Kiyoto, and Duluk.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons we do not sustain any of the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejections on appeal.

REVERSED

BOARD OF PATENT

INTERFERENCES

APPEALS

AND

Administrative Patent Judge

ANCE LEONARD BARRY

Administrative Patent Judge

HOWARD B. BLANKENSHIP

Administrative Patent Judge

-10-

Appeal No. 2004-1527 Application No. 09/283,231

RONALD P KANANEN ESQ RADER FISHMAN AND GRAUER THE LION BUILDING 1233 20TH STREET N W SUITE 501 WASHINGTON, DC 20036 CLIPPEDIMAGE= JP409130570A

PAT-NO: JP409130570A

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: JP 09130570 A

TITLE: IMAGE FORMING DEVICE

PUBN-DATE: May 16, 1997

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME

KOZAIKU, KIYOTO

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME

COUNTRY N/A

RICOH CO LTD

APPL-NO: JP07281007

APPL-DATE: October 27, 1995

INT-CL (IPC): H04N001/32; G06T001/00; H04N001/00; B41J029/38

ABSTRACT:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To prevent production of useless power

consumption by

stopping the application of an image clock signal to a processing block

not in

use in the standby state and in various operation modes.

SOLUTION: The device is provided with an image processing means (not shown)

having each processing block receiving image data from a scanner or an external

device to apply optional image processing to the image data, with an MPU $210\,$

outputting data to select application/inhibit of the image clock signal, and

with a supply/inhibit signal generating section 302 generating a signal

inhibit the application of the image clock signal to a processing block

relating to the image processing by the image processing means.

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(43)[DATEOFFIRSTPUBLICATION]

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画像形成装置

(54)[TITLE]

Image-forming-device

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(51)[IPC]

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1/00//B41J29/38

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Ε B41J 29/38 Ζ 7 G06F 15/64

[FI]

H04N 1/32 Ζ

1/00 Ε B41J29/38

G06F15/64

Ζ Ζ

【審査請求】 未請求 [EXAMINATIONREQUEST] UNREQUESTED

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【出願形態】 O L [Application form] OL

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(71)【出願人】

(71)[PATENTEE/ASSIGNEE]

【識別番号】

[IDCODE]

000006747

000006747

【氏名又は名称】

株式会社リコー

Ricoh Co., Ltd.

【住所又は居所】

[ADDRESS]

東京都大田区中馬込1丁目3番

6号

(72)【発明者】

(72)[INVENTOR]

【氏名】 小細工 清人 Kiyoto Kozaiku

【住所又は居所】

[ADDRESS]

東京都大田区中馬込1丁目3番 6号 株式会社リコー内

(74)【代理人】

(74)[PATENTAGENT]

【弁理士】

[PATENTATTORNEY]

【氏名又は名称】 酒井 宏明 Hiroaki Sakai

(57)【要約】

(57)[SUMMARY] .

【課題】

[SUBJECT]

待機時および各種動作モード時 において使用しない処理ブロッ クへの画像クロック信号の供給 を停止することにより, 無駄な 電力消費の発生を阻止する。

Generating of useless power consumption is blocked by stopping supply of the image-clocksignal to the process block not used at the time of standby and various operation modes.

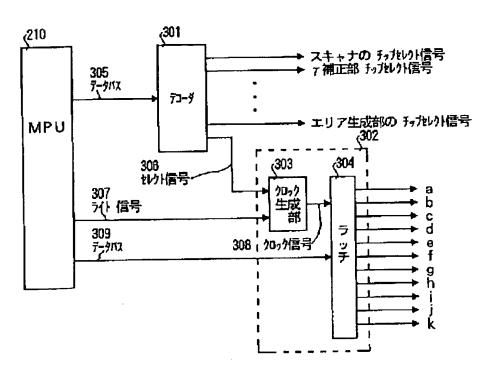




【解決手段】

[SOLUTION]

In the image-forming-device equipped with image-processing means (not shown) to have each process block which inputs the image data from a scanner or an external device, and performs arbitrary image processings to this image data. Based on data from MPU210 data which choose outputs the which supply/prohibition of an image-clock-signal, and from MPU210. based on data supply/prohibition-signal-formation part 302 which, based on data from MPU210, forms the signal which prohibits a supply of the imageclock-signal with respect to a process block which is not engaged in image processing by image-processing means are provided.



- 301 Decoder
- 303 Clock formation part
- 304 Latch
- 305 Data bus





306 Selection signal

307 Light signal

308 Clock signal

309 Data bus

Three Arrows from 301, at Right Top Corner, from the Top: Chip selection signal from the scanner Correction (gamma) part, chip selection signal Chip selection signal of area-formation-part

【特許請求の範囲】

[CLAIMS]

【請求項1】

【請求項2】

原稿を光学的に読み取って原稿 画像に応じた画像データを出力 する原稿読取手段と,前記原稿 読取手段からの画像データに 意の画像処理を施す画像処理手段 と,前記画像処理手段による 画像処理後の画像データを表示 手段とを備えた画像形成装置に おいて,画像クロック信号の供

[CLAIM 1]

In the image-forming-device equipped with image-processing means to have each process block which inputs the image data from a scanner or an external device, and performs arbitrary image processings to this image data, control means to output the data which choose supply/prohibition of an image-clock-signal, and signal-formation-means to form the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal with respect to the above-mentioned process block which is not engaged in image processing by above-mentioned image-processing means, based on the data from above-mentioned control means, are provided.

An image-forming-device characterized by the above-mentioned.

[CLAIM 2]

In the image-forming-device wherein the original-document reading_means which reads an original document optically and outputs image data depending on the original-document image, image-processing means to perform arbitrary image processings to image data from the above-mentioned original-document reading_means, and display means of the image data after the image processing by above-mentioned image-processing means are





給/禁止を選択するデータを出 力する制御手段と,前記制御手 段からのデータに基づいて, 記表示手段に画像データを表示 する場合に,前記画像処理手段 による画像処理に関与しな明 を生成な画像の世紀を禁止する 号を生成する信号生成手段 備えたことを特徴とする画像形 成装置。

【請求項3】

原稿を光学的に読み取って原稿 画像に応じた画像データを出力 する原稿読取手段と, 前記原稿 読取手段からの画像データを外 部装置に出力するデータ制御手 段と, 前記画像データに任意の 画像処理を施す各処理ブロック を有する画像処理手段とを備え た画像形成装置において、画像 クロック信号の供給/禁止を選 択するデータを出力する制御手 段と, 前記制御手段からのデー タに基づいて、前記外部装置に 画像データを出力する場合に、 前記画像処理手段による画像処 理に関与しない前記処理ブロッ クに対する画像クロック信号の 供給を禁止する信号を生成する 信号生成手段とを備えたことを 特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項4】

外部装置からの画像データを記録する記録手段と,前記画像データに任意の画像処理を施す各処理ブロックを有する画像処理 手段とを備えた画像形成装置において,画像クロック信号の供 provided, control means to output the data which choose supply/prohibition of an image-clock-signal, and signal-formation-means to form the signal which prohibits supply of an image-clock-signal to the above-mentioned process block which is not engaged in the image processing by above-mentioned image-processing means when displaying image data for above-mentioned display means based on the data from above-mentioned control means, are provided.

An image-forming-device characterized by the above-mentioned.

[CLAIM 3]

image-forming-device wherein the an original-document reading means which reads an original document optically and outputs image data depending on the original-document data control means to output the image data from the above-mentioned originaldocument reading means to an external device. and image-processing means to have each process block which performs arbitrary image processings to the above-mentioned image data, are provided, control means to output the data which choose supply/prohibition of an image-clock-signal, and signal-formationmeans to form the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal with respect to the above-mentioned process block which is not engaged in image processing by abovementioned image-processing means image data are output to the above-mentioned external device based on the data from abovementioned control means, are provided.

An image-forming-device characterized by the above-mentioned.

[CLAIM 4]

In the image-forming-device equipped with record means to record the image data from an external device, and image-processing means to have each process block which performs arbitrary image processings to the abovementioned image data, control means to output the data which choose supply/prohibition





【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】

本発明は、デジタル複写機やフルカラーデジタル複写機などの画像形成装置に関し、より詳細には入力された画像データに任意の画像処理を行うための各種の画像処理ブロックへの画像クロック信号を画像処理実行対象のブロックにのみ供給する画像形成装置に関する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】

一般にデジタル複写機は,原稿を露光し該露光による原稿反射光をCCDなどのセンサにより。 読み取り,この読み取ったアルックの画像データをデジタスキャナと,該スキャナとの画像データに所でのからの画像がでからの画像が設けられた画りが設けられた画りが設けられた画りの理部と,該画像処理部から出力 of an image-clock-signal, and signal-formationmeans to form the signal which prohibits receiving supply of an image-clock-signal to the above-mentioned process block which is not engaged in the image processing by abovementioned image-processing means when recording the image data from the abovementioned external device, based on the data from above-mentioned control means, are provided.

An image-forming-device characterized by the above-mentioned.

[DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION]

[0001]

[TECHNICAL FIELD]

This invention relates to image-forming-devices, such as a digital copying machine and a full-color digital copying machine. More specifically it is related with the image-forming-device which supplies the image-clock-signal to the various image-processing block for performing arbitrary image processings to an input image data, only to the block for image-processing execution.

[0002]

[PRIOR ART]

A digital copying machine generally comprises the following: The scanner which exposes an original document and reads the reflection light of the original-document by this exposure by CCD sensor etc. and converts into digital one this read analog image data; the image-processing part to which each process block (circuit) is provided in order to perform a predetermined image processing to the image data from this scanner; the printer which records the image data output from this image-





される画像データを記録紙に記録するプリンタとから構成されている。

される画像データを記録紙に記 processing part on a recording paper.

[0003]

ところが上記各処理ブロックには電源投入から電源がOFFされるまでの間、常に画像クロック信号が供給されて動作しているため、その実行対象外の処理ブロックでは無駄な電力を消費するという問題点があった。

[0004]

そこで上記問題点を解決するために、たとえば特願平6-058060号公報では、待機時に各処理ブロックに供給している画像クロック信号の動作を停止することが提案されている。

[0005]

【発明が解決しようとする課 題】

しかしながら、上記に示される ような従来の装置にあってック 特機時にのみ各処理ブロック信号 の動作を停止しているが、一で の動作を停止していては動作 といっかにおいては動作 が与えられて一が 行われるため、他のモードでとい 行われるが 無駄な消費電力が発生する う問題点があった。

[0006]

すなわち,デジタル複写機には 様々な動作モードが用意されて おり,これらの動作モードが設 定された場合,すべての処理ブ

[0003]

However since an image-clock-signal is always supplied until a power supply is turned off from a power supply switch-on to each process block, there was a problem of having consumed a useless electric power, in the process block outside of the execution.

[0004]

Then in order to solve the above problem, in Japanese-Patent-Application-No. 6-058060 gazette, stopping an operation of the image-clock-signal currently supplied to each process block at the time of standby is proposed.

[0005]

[PROBLEM ADDRESSED]

However, in the conventional device which is shown in the above, the operation of the image-clock-signal currently supplied to each process block is stopped only at the time of standby, but since it imparts an image-clock-signal in the mode other than that and an operation is performed, there was a problem that useless power consumption generated, in other modes.

190001

That is, various operation modes are prepared for the digital copying machine, and when these operation modes are set up, since an imageclock-signal will be supplied to all process blocks and all process blocks will operate, a





ロックに画像クロック信号が供給されて全処理ブロックが動作するため, 無駄な電力を消費することになる。

ロックに画像クロック信号が供 useless electric power will be consumed.

[0007]

本発明は、上記に鑑みてなされたものであって、待機時および各種動作モード時において使用しない処理ブロックへの画像クロック信号の供給を停止することにより、無駄な電力消費の発生を阻止することを目的とする。

[0008]

【課題を解決するための手段】 上記の目的を達成するために、 請求項1に係る画像形成装置に あっては、スキャナまたは外部 装置からの画像データを入力 し、該画像データに任意の画像 処理を施す各処理ブロックを有 する画像処理手段を備えた画像 形成装置において、画像クロッ ク信号の供給/禁止を選択する データを出力する制御手段と, 前記制御手段からのデータに基 づいて、前記画像処理手段によ る画像処理に関与しない前記処 理ブロックに対する画像クロッ ク信号の供給を禁止する信号を 生成する信号生成手段とを備え たものである。

[0009]

すなわち,画像クロック信号を 画像処理実行の処理ブロックの みに与え,他の画像処理を実行 しない処理ブロックには信号生

[0007]

This invention takes an example in the above, and is aimed at blocking generating of a useless power consumption by stopping supply of the image-clock-signal to the process block not used at the time of standby and various operation modes.

[8000]

[SOLUTION OF THE INVENTION]

In order to realize the objective of the above, in the image-forming-device based on Claim 1, in the image-forming-device equipped with image-processing means to have each process block which inputs the image data from a scanner or an external device, and performs arbitrary image processings to this image data, control means to output the data which choose supply/prohibition of an image-clock-signal, signal-formation-means to form the signal which prohibits supply of an image-clock-signal to the above-mentioned process block which is not engaged in the image processing by abovementioned image-processing means, on data from above-mentioned control means, are provided.

[0009]

That is, generating of the useless power consumption by the image-clock-signal of the process block outside of the process is checked, by giving an image-clock-signal only to the process block of image-processing





成手段により生成した画像クロック信号の供給を禁止する信号を与えることにより、処理対象外の処理ブロックの画像クロック信号による無駄な消費電力の発生を阻止する。

execution, and giving the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal formed by signal-formation-means to the other process block which does not perform image processing.

[0010]

また,請求項2に係る画像形成 装置にあっては,原稿を光学的 に読み取って原稿画像に応じた 画像データを出力する原稿読取 手段と, 前記原稿読取手段から の画像データに任意の画像処理 を施す画像処理手段と、前記画 像処理手段による画像処理後の 画像データを表示手段とを備え た画像形成装置において、画像 クロック信号の供給/禁止を選 択するデータを出力する制御手 段と、前記制御手段からのデー タに基づいて, 前記表示手段に 画像データを表示する場合に, 前記画像処理手段による画像処 理に関与しない前記処理ブロッ クに対する画像クロック信号の 供給を禁止する信号を生成する 信号生成手段とを備えたもので ある。

[0011]

[0010]

Moreover, in the image-forming-device based on Claim 2, in the image-forming-device wherein the original-document reading_means which reads an original document optically and outputs image data depending on the originaldocument image, image-processing means to perform arbitrary image processings to image data from the above-mentioned originaldocument reading_means, display means of the image data after the image processing by above-mentioned image-processing means are provided, control means to output the data which choose supply/prohibition of an imageclock-signal, and signal-formation-means to form the signal which prohibits supply of an image-clock-signal to the above-mentioned process block which is not engaged in the image processing by above-mentioned imageprocessing means when displaying image data for above-mentioned display means, based on the data from above-mentioned control means, are provided.

[0011]

That is, generating of the useless power consumption by the image-clock-signal of the process block outside of the process is checked, by giving an image-clock-signal only to the process block for displaying for display means, and giving the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal formed by signal-formation-means to the other process block which does not perform image processing.





[0012]

また,請求項3に係る画像形成 装置にあっては, 原稿を光学的 に読み取って原稿画像に応じた 画像データを出力する原稿読取 手段と、前記原稿読取手段から の画像データを外部装置に出力 するデータ制御手段と、前記画 像データに任意の画像処理を施 す各処理ブロックを有する画像 処理手段とを備えた画像形成装 置において,画像クロック信号 の供給/禁止を選択するデータ を出力する制御手段と, 前記制 御手段からのデータに基づい て、前記外部装置に画像データ を出力する場合に、前記画像処 理手段による画像処理に関与し ない前記処理ブロックに対する 画像クロック信号の供給を禁止 する信号を生成する信号生成手 段とを備えたものである。

[0013]

[0014]

また,請求項4に係る画像形成 装置にあっては,外部装置から の画像データを記録する記録手 段と,前記画像データに任意の

[0012]

moreover -- the image-forming-device based on Claim 3 In the image-forming-device equipped with the original-document reading means which reads an original document optically and outputs image data depending on the originaldocument image, data control means to output the image data from the above-mentioned original-document reading means external device, and image-processing means to have each process block which performs arbitrary image processings to the abovementioned image data, control means to output the data which choose supply/prohibition of an image-clock-signal, and signal-formationmeans to form the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal with respect to the above-mentioned process block which is not engaged in the image processing by aboveimage-processing mentioned means, provided.

[0013]

That is, generating of the useless power consumption by the image-clock-signal of the process block outside of the process is checked, by giving an image-clock-signal only to the process block for outputting the image data read by original-document reading_means to an external device, and giving the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal formed by signal-formation-means to the other process block which does not perform image processing.

[0014]

Moreover, in the image-forming-device based on Claim 4, in the image-forming-device which has record means to record the image data from an external device, and image-processing means to have each process block which





画像処理を施す各処理を施す各処理を施す各処理を施するの理を施りて、
を有り、
を有り、

performs arbitrary image processings to the above-mentioned image data, control means to output the data which choose supply/prohibition of an image-clock-signal, and signal-formation-means to form the signal which prohibits supply of an image-clock-signal to the above-mentioned process block which is not engaged in the image processing by above-mentioned image-processing means when recording the image data from the above-mentioned external device, based on the data from above-mentioned control means are provided.

[0015]

[0016]

【発明の実施の形態】

以下, 本発明の一実施例を添付 図面を参照して説明する。

[0017]

【実施例】

(システム構成)図1は本実施例に係るシステム構成を示す説明図である。図において, 10

[0015]

That is, generating of the useless power consumption by the image-clock-signal of the process block outside of the process is checked, by giving an image-clock-signal only to the process block for carrying out the record output of the image data from an external device, and giving the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal formed by signal-formation-means to the other process block which does not perform the image processing.

[0016]

[Embodiment]

Hereafter, one Example of this invention is demonstrated with reference to an accompanying drawing.

[0017]

[Example]

(System assembly)

Figure 1 is an explanatory drawing showing the system assembly based on this Example.

In the figure, 100 is a digital full-color copying





0は画像形成装置としてのデジタルフルカラー複写機であり、一般的に知られているように3ラインCCDにより原稿を読み取るスキャナ(装置の上側部分)と、画像処理後の画像データを記録紙に出力するプリンタ(装置の下側部分)と、構成されている。

machine as an image-forming-device, and as known in general, comprises the scanner (upper part of device) which reads the original document by 3-line CCD, the printer (bottom part of device) which outputs the image data after an image processing to a recording paper, and the below-mentioned image-processing part, etc.

[0018]

[0019]

また、150はパーソナルコンピュータやワークステーションなどの外部装置、160はコントローラ120と外部装置150とを接続し、両者間におけるデータ授受用の通信ケーブルである。

[0020]

(システムの動作)次に、以上 のように構成されたシステムの 動作を第 $1\sim$ 第3の動作に分け て説明する。

[0021]

[0018]

Moreover, as illustrated, 110 is mounted at the right upper part of a device, and is the display * editor as display means for carrying out the decimation display of the image read with the scanner, and setting up image edit, color conversion, etc. 120 is a controller as data control means equipped with the memory for storing image data, in order to perform a format conversion of the image data between an image-forming-device 100 and the belowmentioned external device 150 etc.

[0019]

Moreover, 150 connects external devices, such as a personal computer and a workstation, 160 connects a controller 120 and the external device 150, and is a telecommunication cable for the data transfer between both.

[0020]

(Operation of a system) Next, an operation of the system comprised as mentioned above is divided into first-third operation, and is demonstrated.

[0021]





[0022]

[0023]

(2)第2の動作は,画像形成 装置100のスキャナで読み取った画像を外部装置150にある。この場合である。この場合である。この場合,上記と同様に,スキャナにのより見が。 かのスタートキーを押下露光さいののスタートキされ,該露光さに反射不らにより原稿の読み取りが行われる。

(1)

The first operation is the case where the display * editor 110 of an image-forming-device 100 is made to display the read image.

In this case, if an original document is set to a scanner and the start key for the reading start is pressed down, an original document will be exposed, and 3-line CCD leads reflected light depending on the original-document image by this exposure, and reading of an original document will be performed.

[0022]

After that, since this read image data is an analog signal, it is converted into digital image data.

Furthermore the image data of reflectivity-linear is converted into concentration-linear.

Then, a filtering process is added, and this image data is further thinned out by 1/4, and will be written in the memory of the display * editor 110.

And, when writing-in is completed, above image data will be read from the memory of the display * editor 110, and will be displayed by the display part.

[0023]

(2)

The 2nd operation is the case where the image read with the scanner of an image-forming-device 100 is output to an external device 150.

In this case, if an original document is set to a scanner and the start key for the reading start is pressed down like the above, the original document will be exposed, and 3-line CCD leads reflected light depending on the original-document image by this exposure, and reading of an original document will be performed.





[0024]

その後、この読み取った画像データはアナログ信号であるためである性である性である性であるできまれた。コントローラ120のトローラ120のトローラ120に書きストスクリーブル160を通して外部といるといいます。これでは、通信をできません。 かいしょ ひのメモリに書き込む。

[0025]

(3) 第3の動作は,外部装置 150から送られてくるデータ を画像形成装置100で記録す る場合である。この場合, 画像 形成装置100は外部装置15 0から通信ケーブル160を通 して記録開始の指令を受ける と, 画像形成のための準備を行 い、該準備が終了するとその旨 を示す信号により外部装置15 0に知らせる。すると、外部装 置150からのデータは通信ケ ーブル160を通して上記所定 のフォーマットでコントローラ 120に送られ、画像形成装置 100で記録できるフォーマッ トに変換しメモリに書き込まれ る。そして、画像形成装置10 0はすべてのデータがメモリに 書き込まれると, 該メモリから データを読み出し, 階調処理お よび書込特性に適合するように γ補正して記録処理を実行す る。

[0026]

次に, ディスプレイ・エディタ

[0024]

After that, since this read image data is an analog signal, it is converted into digital image data and written in the memory of a controller 120.

The controller 120 converts the image data written as above into prescribed format, for example, post script file, passes through the telecommunication cable 160, and writes it in the memory of an external device 150.

[0025]

(3)

The third operation is the case where the data sent from an external device 150 are recorded by the image-forming-device 100.

In this case, as an image-forming-device 100 passes through a telecommunication cable 160 from an external device 150 and a command of record start is received, it will perform provision for image formation, and if this provision is completed, it will tell an external device 150 about it with the signal which shows the purport.

Then, the data from an external device 150 pass through the telecommunication cable 160, and are sent to the controller 120 in the above prescribed format, and they are converted into the format which can be recorded by the image-forming-device 100, and are written in a memory.

And, the image-forming-device 100 reads data from this memory, when all data have been written in the memory, and it will correct and perform a record process, so that a gradation process and a write-in characteristic may be adapted (gamma).

[0026]

Next, fundamental operation of the display *





1 1 0 の基本的な動作について 説明する。まず,読取スタート スイッチ(図示せず)を押下す ると、スキャナが原稿台にセッ トされた原稿Pを露光走査し、 前述の如く3ラインCCDによ り原稿画像に応じた電気信号の 画像データR、G、Bを得る。 該R, G, Gの画像データは, 後述の画像処理部に送られ所定 の処理が施される。すなわち, 該画像処理部は、画像データに γ変換→フィルタ処理→間引き 処理を施し、ディスプレイ・エ ディタ110に出力する。な お、これら一連の画像処理の詳 細については後述する。

[0027]

ここで、画像データを間引くの は、読取画像密度が、たとえば 400dpiと高密度の解像度 であるため、このままの密度で 保持しようとすると、そのメモ リ容量が膨大となり、メモリコ ストが高くなるので、間引き画 像によりメモリ容量を減らすた めに行うものである。そこで, メモリ容量を削減するために, 画像データを間引いた後、ディ スプレイ・エディタ110に出 力し、該ディスプレイ・エディ タ110内のメモリに記憶す る。このようにディスプレイ・ エディタ110は受け取った画 像データを表示する。

[0028]

次いで,一般的に用いられているタッチペン等の座標表示手段 (図示せず)により,ディスプ レイ・エディタ110に表示さ editor 110 is demonstrated.

First, if a reading start switch (not shown) is pressed down, a scanner will carry out the exposure scan of the original-document P set to the original-document table, and the image data R, G, and B of an electrical signal of will be obtained depending on the original-document image by 3-line CCD as mentioned above.

This image data of R, G, and G is sent to the below-mentioned image-processing part, and a prescribed process is performed.

Namely, this image-processing part performs a conversion (gamma) -> filter process -> decimation process to image data, and outputs it to the display * editor 110.

In addition, about the detail of the image processing of these series, it mentions later.

[0027]

Here, the reason to thin out image data is that since a read -image density is high density resolution, for example, 400dpi, if it is going to hold by this density, the memory capacity will become huge and memory cost will become higher. A memory capacity can be reduced by the decimation image.

Then, in order to reduce a memory capacity, after thinning out image data, it outputs to the display * editor 110, and it stores in the memory in this display * editor 110.

Thus the display * editor 110 displays the received image data.

[0028]

Subsequently, the area of the image displayed by the display * editor 110 is touched by coordinate display means (not shown), such as the touch pen, used in general.

Since the display part serves as the touch





れた画像のエリアをタッチす る。表示部分はタッチパネルと なっているので、タッチされた 部分が指定対象のエリアとして 認識される。そこで、変更した い内容、たとえば色変換で赤に 変換する場合に対応する操作を 行い,その指示を確定する。ま た、これらの操作は画面にメニ ュー等により表示される。その 後,指示操作が終了し、コピー スタートキー (図示せず) が押 下されると、上記指示内容が画 像処理部に通知され、指示内容 に応じたパラメータが設定され る。パラメータの設定が終了す ると, 前述のプロセスに基づい て、スキャナの画像読み取りが 開始され、一連のコピー動作が 行われる。

[0029]

[0030]

すなわち,図において,201 は入力されたR,G,Bの画像 データを濃度変換するγ補正処 理を実行するγ補正部,202 panel, the touched part is recognized as area for designation.

Then, operation to correspond, for example, when converting in red by color conversion, is carried out to the content to alter, and the instructions are confirmed.

Moreover, these operation are displayed by the screen with a menu etc.

If instructions operation is completed and a copy start key (not shown) is pushed after that, the content of above instructions will be notified to the image-processing part, and a parameter will be set up depending on the content of instructions.

If a setup of a parameter is completed, based on the above-mentioned process, image reading of a scanner will be started and a series of copy operation will be performed.

[0029]

(Structure of an image-processing part)

Figure 2 is a block diagram showing the structure of the image-processing part based on this Example, and the image-processing part 200 as image-processing means comprises each following functional component of 201-210.

Moreover, 215 is a scanner as original-document reading_means which exposes an original document and reads the reflection light by 3-line CCD, and 220 is a printer as record means to form an image by laser-beam writing based on an electrophotography process.

[0030]

That is, in the figure, 201 is a correction (gamma) part which performs a correction process which carries out the concentration conversion of the input image data of R, G, and B (gamma), and 202 is an image-separation





は画像データからm×mビット 単位で文字領域であるか写真領域であるか、また必要に応じるの 有彩であるか無彩であるかを をする画像分離部、203は との2の出力信号に がいてパラメータを切り換えて 画像データのフィルタである。 理を実行するフィルタである。 part which, in m* m binary-digit unit, judges from image data whether it is character area, photography area, or it is, depending on the need, colored area or non- colored area. 203 is a filter which switches parameter based on the output signal of the image-separation part 202, and performs a filtering process of image data.

[0031]

また、204は色補正/色変換 処理を実行する色補正部、20 5は指定された編集指示に基づ いて編集処理を実行する編集処 理部、206は文字処理の場合 にスルー, 写真処理の場合に階 調処理を実行する階調処理部, 207はプリンタ220の出力 特性に応じた濃度補正を実行す るプリンタγ補正部,208は 色変換のエリアを生成するエリ ア生成部, 209は画像データ を所定の画素密度に間引き処理 し、間引き後の画像データをデ ィスプレイ・エディタ110に 与える間引き処理部, 210は 上記各処理ブロックに指令を与 え、画像処理部200全体を統 括的に制御する制御手段として のMPUである。

[0032]

(画像処理部の動作)次に,以上のように構成された画像処理部の動作について説明する。スキャナ215からの原稿Pに対応する画像データR,G,B(各色8ビット)は,同時に画像処理部200に送られる。画像処理部200は,入力された画像データに所定の補正を加え,プ

[0031]

Moreover, 204 is a color-correction part which performs color correction / color-conversion process, and 205 is an edit process part which performs an edit process based on designated edit instructions, 206 is a gradation process part which performs through in a character process and performs a gradation process in the case of a photographic processing, and 207 is a printer (gamma) correction part which performs concentration correction depending on the output characteristics of printer 220, and 208 is an area-formation-part which forms the area of color conversion, and 209 is the decimation process part which carries out the decimation process of the image data at a predetermined pixel density, and gives the image data after decimation to the display * editor 110.

210 is MPU as control means to give a command to each process block and to control generally image-processing part 200 as a whole.

[0032]

(Operation of an image-processing part) Next, an operation of the image-processing part comprised as mentioned above is demonstrated.

The image data R, G, and B (8 bits of each color) corresponded to original-document P from the scanner 215 are simultaneously sent to the image-processing part 200.

The image-processing part 200 adds prescribed correction to an input image data,





リンタ220あるいはディスプ レイ・エディタ110に出力す る。

and outputs it to the printer 220 or the display * editor 110.

[0033]

画像処理部200のγ補正部3 01は、スキャナ215からの 画像データR、G、B(反射率 リニア)を濃度リニアに変換す る。該変換データはフィルタ2 03,画像分離部202に入力 される。画像分離部202は、 入力データからm×mビット単 位(たとえば4ビット単位)で 文字領域であるか写真領域であ るかを判定し, その結果をフィ ルタ203に出力する。なお、 この場合の出力データは、2ビ ットデータで表され, ビット0 の0:文字,1:写真,ビット 1の0:有彩,1:無彩とする。

[0034]

[0035]

色補正部204は,色補正/色 変換を実行する。すなわち,ス キャナ215により読み取った 画像データはR,G.Bである

[0033]

The correction (gamma) part 301 of the imageprocessing part 200 converts the image data R, G, and B (reflectivity-linear) from the scanner 215 into concentration linear.

This conversion data is input into the filter 203 and the image-separation part 202.

The image-separation part 202 judges whether it is character area or it is a photography area, per m* m bits (for example, 4 bit unit), from the input data, and outputs the result to a filter 203.

In addition, the output data in this case are expressed by 2 bit data, and are set as 0 of a bit 0: character, 1: photography, 0 of a bit 1: colored, and 1: non-colored.

[0034]

Filter 203 performs a filtering process of image data. That is, a parameter is switched by the output signal from the image-separation part 202.

In other words, if it is character area, it will switch to the parameter of an edge enhancement process. If it is a photography range, it will switch to the parameter of a smoothing process.

And, the image data corrected with the filter 203 are input into the color-correction part 204 and the decimation process part 209.

[0035]

The color-correction part 204 performs color correction/color conversion.

That is, the image data read with the scanner 215 are R, G, and B, but as the print output of the output of a printer 220 is carried out through





が、プリンタ220の出力はBk、C、M、Yのトナーやインクでプリント出力するため、下記数1に基づいてR、G、BデータをBk、C、M、Yに変換する。

the toner and ink of Bk, C, M, and Y, R, G, and B data are converted into Bk, C, M, and Y, based on following Equation 1.

[0036]

[0036]

【数1】

[Equation 1]

$$\begin{pmatrix} C \\ M \\ Y \\ Bk \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r1 & g1 & b1 \\ r2 & g2 & b2 \\ r3 & g3 & b3 \\ r4 & g4 & b4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} d1 \\ d2 \\ d3 \\ d4 \end{pmatrix}$$

[0037]

[0038]

また、色補正部204からの出力データは編集処理部205に入力され、編集の指示に基づいて編集処理を実行し、次段の階調処理部206に送られる。階調処理部206は、文字処理である場合はスルー、すなわち、入力データをそのままの状態で

[0037]

Here, coefficient r, g, and b and constant d are automatically switched by the color-phase parting plane of R, G, and B data.

Moreover, when converting arbitrary colors or area into a desired color, above coefficient and constant are switched to prescribed value.

Here, as for the area, it changes with the area signal from the area-formation-part 208.

[0038]

Moreover, the output data from the color-correction part 204 are input into the edit process part 205, perform an edit process based on instructions of edit, and are sent to the gradation process part 206 of the following stage.

The gradation process part 206 outputs through, i.e., input data in the state as it is, when it is a character process.

On the other hand, when it is a photographic





出力する。一方、写真処理である場合は通常行われているブロック単位で階調表現する階調処理を実行する。その後、この処理後のデータは、プリンタγ補正部207に送られる。

[0039]

[0040]

[0041]

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なお,フィルタ203〜プリンタγ補正部207までは,このエリア信号と上記画像分離部202の信号に基づいて各パラメータを切り換え,所定の処理を

processing, a gradation process which carries out gradation expression in the block unit currently performed usually is performed.

After that, the data after this process are sent to the printer (gamma) correction part 207.

[0039]

The printer (gamma) correction part 207 adds correction to image data so that character area can be reproduced clearly. A part in low concentration will be made white and a part in medium-high concentration is made to reproduce deeply.

Moreover, with respect to a photography area, correction is added so that it may look smoothly in low - medium, to high concentrated part.

And, the image formation by the printer 220 is performed by outputting this corrected image data to a printer 220.

[0040]

Here, from the area-formation-part 208, an area signal is output to a filter 203 regardless of the presence of an area process.

That is, synchronizing with the image data output from a scanner 215, an area signal "0" is output, at the time of a whole-surface process.

Moreover, the area signal (0) for recognizing the area to the timing of the designated area is output to a filter 203 at the time of an area process.

[0041]

In addition, from the filter 203 to printer (gamma) correction part 207, it switches each parameter based on this area signal and the signal of the above image-separation part 202, and performs a prescribed process.

In this case, a parameter passes through the





実行する。この場合、各処理部に対してはMPU210から適時パラメータがバス211を通して設定される。

bus 211 timely from MPU210 with respect to each process part, and is set up.

[0042]

次に, ディスプレイ・エディタ 110に画像データを出力する 場合の動作を説明する。スキャ ナ215から出力する画像デー タをγ補正部201により画像 データR, G, B (反射率リニ ア)を濃度リニアに変換する。 次いで、フィルタ203により フィルタリング処理を実行す る。このとき画像分離部202 から出力される文字/写真信号 に基づいて、文字領域を示す信 号であればスルー, 写真領域を 示す信号であれば平滑の処理結 果を間引き処理部209に出力 する。

[0043]

間引き処理部209は、フィル タ203を介して送られてきた 画素密度400dpiの画像デ ータR, G, Bを, たとえば, それぞれ100dpiの画素密 度に間引き, ディスプレイ・エ ディタ110に出力する。すな わち, 400dpiから100 dpini画像データを間引く ため4×4画素をブロック単位 とし、このブロック内の最大値 をブロックの代表値として出力 する。ディスプレイ・エディタ 110は上記画像データをメモ リに取り込み,画面に表示す る。

[0044]

[0042]

Next, the operation in the case of outputting image data to the display * editor 110 is demonstrated.

The image data output from scanner 215 is converted by the correction (gamma) part 201 to the image data R, G, and B (reflectivity-linear) to concentration-linear.

Subsequently, a filtering process is performed with filter 203.

At this point, based on the character / photography signal output from the image-separation part 202, if it is the signal which shows character area, it will output the result of through process, if it is the signal which shows a photography are, it will output the result of smooth process, to the decimation process part 209.

[0043]

The decimation process part 209, for example, each decimates by the pixel density of 100dpis, the image data R, G and B of pixel density 400dpi which has been sent through filter 203, and it outputs to the display * editor 110.

That is, in order to thin out 100dpini image data from 400dpi, 4*4 pixel is made into a block unit, and the maximum value in this block is output as a central value of a block.

The display * editor 110 receives above image data in a memory, and displays it on a screen.

[0044]





次に,スキャナ215で読み取った画像を外部装置150に出力する場合は,スキャナ215から出力された画像データ(反射率リニア)をコントローラ120のメモリに書き込む。

next, when outputting the image read by the scanner 215 to an external device 150, the image data (reflectivity-linear) output from the scanner 215 will be written in the memory of controller 120.

[0045]

次に、外部装置150から送ら れてくるデータを画像形成装置 100で記録する場合について 説明する。外部装置150から 送られてきたデータはフォーマ ット変換され、コントローラ1 20のメモリに書き込まれる と、該メモリからデータが読み 出され、階調処理部206に入 力され階調処理が行われ、さら にプリンタッ補正部207に出 力される。さらに上記データは プリンタγ補正部207により プリンタ特性に適合するように 補正されたデータに変換され、 プリンタ220に送られること により, 記録紙にプリント出力 される。

[0046]

(画像クロック信号生成部分の構成)次に、上記の図2で説明した各画像処理ブロックに供給する画像クロック信号についてさらに説明する。図3および図4は、各画像処理ブロックに供給する画像クロック信号生成部分の構成を示すブロック図である。

[0047]

図3において,301はMPU 210からのデータをデコード して各画像処理ブロック201

[0045]

Next, the case where the data sent from an external device 150 are recorded by the image-forming-device 100 is demonstrated.

If the format conversion of the data sent from the external device 150 is carried out and is written in the memory of a controller 120, data will be read from this memory, and it will be input into the gradation process part 206, and a gradation process will be performed, and furthermore it will be output to the printer (gamma) correction part 207.

Furthermore above data are converted into the data corrected so that a printer characteristic might be adapted by the printer (gamma) correction part 207, and print output is carried out at a recording paper by being sent to a printer 220.

[0046]

(Structure of an image-clock-signal formation part)

Next, the image-clock-signal supplied to each image-processing block demonstrated in Figure 2 of the above is demonstrated further.

Figure 3 and Figure 4 are the block diagrams showing the structure of the image-clock-signal formation part supplied to each image-processing block.

[0047]

In Figure 3, 301 is a decoder which forms the chip selection signal for decoding the data from MPU210 and setting a parameter at each image-processing block 201-208 and the





~208およびスキャナ21 scanner 215* printer 220. 5・プリンタ220にパラメー タを設定するためのチップセレ クト信号を生成するデコーダで ある。

[0048]

また、302は画像クロック信 号を供給/禁止する信号を生成 する信号生成手段としての供給 /禁止信号生成部であり, MP U210からのライト信号とデ コーダ301からのセレクト信 号に基づいてクロック信号を生 成するクロック信号生成部30 3と、クロック信号生成部30 3からのクロック信号とMPU 210からのデータとに基づい て各画像処理ブロックに対応す るa~k信号を出力するラッチ 304とにより構成されてい る。

[0049]

また、図4において、401は 画像クロックを生成する画像ク ロック生成部であり、その出力 側には上記各画像処理ブロック に対応する a ~ k 信号が供給/ 禁止するゲート402a~kに それぞれ接続されている。

[0050]

(画像クロック信号生成部分の 動作) 次に, 以上の構成におけ る動作を説明する。図3に示す ように、まず、デコーダ301 は、MPU210からのデータ 305をデコードし、各画像処 理ブロックにパラメータを設定
 するためのチップセレクト信号 を生成する。さらにデコーダ3

[0048]

Moreover, 302 is supply/prohibition-signalformation part as signal-formation-means to form the signal which supplies and prohibits an image-clock-signal, and comprises the clock signal formation part 303 which forms a clock signal based on the light signal from MPU210, and the selection signal from a decoder 301, the latch 304 which outputs the a-k signal corresponded to each image-processing block, based on the clock signal from the clock signal formation part 303, and the data from MPU210.

[0049]

Moreover, in the Figure 4, 401 is an image clock formation part which forms an image clock, and the a-k signal corresponded to each imageprocessing block is each connected to gate 402a-k supplied or prohibited at the output side.

[0050]

(Operation of an image-clock-signal formation part) Next, the operation in the above structure is demonstrated.

As shown in Figure 3, first, decoder 301 decodes the data 305 from MPU210, and forms the chip selection signal for setting a parameter at each image-processing block.

Furthermore decoder 301 forms the selection signal 306 which chooses supply/prohibitionsignal-formation part 302 which forms the signal





01は、画像クロック信号を供給/禁止する信号を生成する供給/禁止信号生成部302を選択するセレクト信号306を生成する。

0 1 は,画像クロック信号を供 which supplies or prohibits an image-clock-給ノ禁止する信号を生成する供 signal.

[0051]

続いて、供給/禁止信号生成部 3 0 2 のクロック信号生成部 3 0 3 は、上記セレクト信号 3 0 6 とMPU 2 1 0 からのライト信号 3 0 7 により、データをラッチするためのクロック信号 3 0 8 を生成する。

[0052]

したがって、MPU210は、 供給/禁止信号生成部302を 選択し、画像クロック信号の供 給/禁止を選択するデータをデ ータバスから出力すると、その データがッチ304によりラッ チされ、各画像処理ブロックご とに与えられるa~k信号が出 力される。

[0053]

上記 $a \sim k$ 信号は,図 4 に示す 0 と に 信号は,図 4 に 示す 0 と の 0 化 の 0 と の 0 の 0 と の 0 と の 0 と の 0 と の 0 と の 0 と

[0051]

Then, the clock signal formation part 303 of supply/prohibition-signal-formation part 302 forms the clock signal 308 for carrying out the latch of the data with the above selection signal 306 and the light signal 307 from MPU210.

[0052]

Therefore, if MPU210 outputs the data which choose supply/prohibition-signal-formation part 302, and supply/prohibition of an image-clock-signal, from data bus, the latch of the data will be carried out by the latch 304, and the a-k signal which it imparts for every image-processing block will be output.

[0053]

The above a-k signal is input into gate 402a-402k which supplies and prohibits the image-clock-signal currently supplied for every image-processing block, from the image clock formation part 401, as shown in a Figure 4.

With the a-k signal here, it becomes the output of supply on a "high" level and it becomes the output of prohibition on a "low" level.

The combination of the level of the data set at supply/prohibition-signal-formation part 302 in each of these mode ((1) standby, (2) copy, (3) display, (4) read data transmission to an external device 150, (5) the data of the external device 150 recorded), i.e., above a-k signal, is shown in Table 1.





わち、上記 a ~ k 信号のレベル の組み合わせを表 1 に示す。

[0054]

[0054]

【表1】

[Table 1]

信号	①待機	② □Ł-	③表示	④読取データの転送	⑤外部装置のデータ を記録
а	ロウ	ハイ	ハイ	ハイ	לם
b	ロウ	ハイ	ハイ	ロウ	לים
С	ロウ	114	ハイ	ロウ	לים
d	ロウ	ハイ	اث ت	ロウ	לם
е	ロウ	ハイ	ロウ	פים	לם
f	ロウ	111	ロウ	ロウ	ハイ
g	ロウ	111	ロウ	ロウ	ハイ
h	ロウ	111	ロウ	ロウ	ハイ
i	לם	711	ハイ	ロウ	ロウ
j	ロウ	ハイ	ハイ	ロウ	ロウ
k	לם	ハイ	ハイ	לים	ロウ

From the Left Column:

Signal; ...

- 1 Stand-by; low...
- 2 Copy; high...
- 3 Display; high; high; low; low; low; low; low; high; ...
- 4 Transmission of read data; high; low...
- 5 Record Data of an external device; low; low; low; low; low; high; high; low...

[0055]

なお, 上記における他の手段と In addition, as other means in the above, the





して、各画像処理ブロックごとに供給される画像クロック信号を供給/禁止するゲートを設け、MPU210からのパラメータにより供給/禁止を切り換えてもよい。

gate which supplies and prohibits the imageclock-signal supplied for every imageprocessing block may be provided, and supply/prohibition may be switched with the parameter from MPU210.

[0056]

[0056]

【発明の効果】

[0057]

[0058]

また、本発明に係る画像形成装置(請求項3)によれば、画像 クロック信号を原稿読取手段で

[EFFECT OF THE INVENTION]

As explained above, according to the image-forming-device (Claim 1) based on this invention, since an image-clock-signal is given only to the process block of image-processing execution, and the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal formed by signal-formation-means is given to the other process block which does not perform an image processing, generating of the useless power consumption by the image-clock-signal of the process block outside the process can be stopped.

[0057]

Moreover, according to the image-forming-device (Claim 2) based on this invention, since an image-clock-signal is given only to the process block for displaying for display means, and the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal formed by signal-formation-means is given to the other process block which does not perform an image processing, generating of the useless power consumption by the image-clock-signal of the process block outside the process can be stopped.

[0058]

Moreover, according to the image-formingdevice (Claim 3) based on this invention, An image-clock-signal is given only to the process block for outputting the image data read by the





original-document reading_means to an external device, and the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal formed by signal-formation-means is given to the other process block which does not perform an image processing, generating of the useless power consumption by the image-clock-signal of the process block outside the process can be stopped.

[0059]

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】

本実施例に係るシステム構成を示す説明図である。

【図2】

本実施例に係る画像処理部の構成を示すブロック図である。

【図3】

本実施例に係る各画像処理ブロックに供給する画像クロック信 号生成部分の構成を示すブロッ ク図である。

[0059]

Moreover, according to the image-forming-device (Claim 4) based on this invention, an image-clock-signal is given only to the process block for carrying out the record output of the image data from an external device, and the signal which prohibits supply of the image-clock-signal formed by signal-formation-means is given to the other process block which does not perform an image processing, generating of the useless power consumption by the image-clock-signal of the process block outside the process can be stopped.

[BRIEF EXPLANATION OF DRAWINGS]

[FIGURE 1]

It is the explanatory drawing showing the system assembly based on this Example.

[FIGURE 2]

It is the block diagram showing the structure of the image-processing part based on this Example.

[FIGURE 3]

It is the block diagram showing the structure of the image-clock-signal formation part supplied to each image-processing block based on this Example.





【図4】

本実施例に係る各画像処理ブロックに供給する画像クロック信 号生成部分の構成を示すブロッ ク図である。

[FIGURE 4]

It is the block diagram showing the structure of the image-clock-signal formation part supplied to each image-processing block based on this Example.

【符号の説明】

1		0					
1	1 0	ディ	スプ	レイ	•	エデ	゚゙イ
タ							
		0			口	_	ラ
		外部					
2	0	0	画	像	処	理	部
		γ 処					
		2			分	離	部
2	0 3	フィ	ルタ				
2	0	4	1	笠 :	補	正	部
2	0 5	編集	処理	部			
2	0	6	階	調	処	理	部
2	07	プリ	ンタ	γ補	证	部	
2	0	8	エリ	ア	生	成	部
2	09	間引	き処	理部	3		
				\mathbb{N}	1	P	U
2	1 5	スキ	ャナ				

プリンタ

[EXPLANATION OF DRAWING]

100	Image-forming-device			110	
Display * editor					
120	Controller			150	
Extern	al device				
200	lm	age-pro	cessing	part	
201	(gamma) Proc	ess part	t ·		
202	· Im	iage-sep	paration	part	
203	Filter				
204	C	Color-co	rrection	part	
205	Edit process p	art			
206	Grada	ation	process	part	
207	Printer (gamm	a) corre	ction part		
208		Ar	ea-formation	n-part	
209	Decimation pro	ocess pa	art		
210	мри			215	
Scanner					
220	Printer				

【図1】

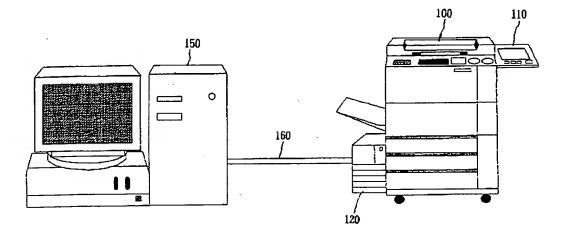
02/07/03

2 2 0

[FIGURE 1]



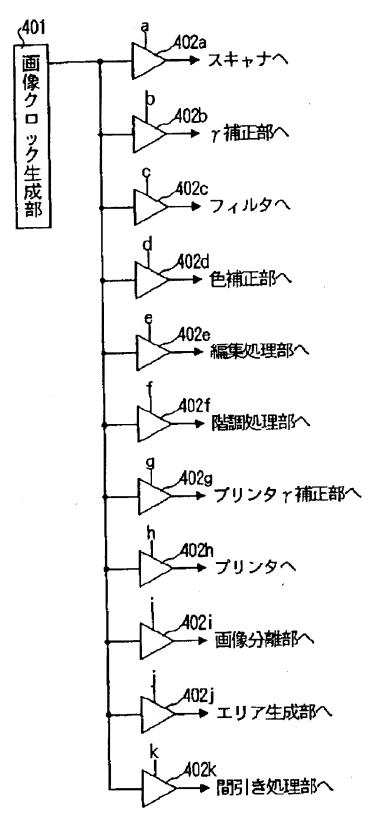




【図4】

[FIGURE 4]









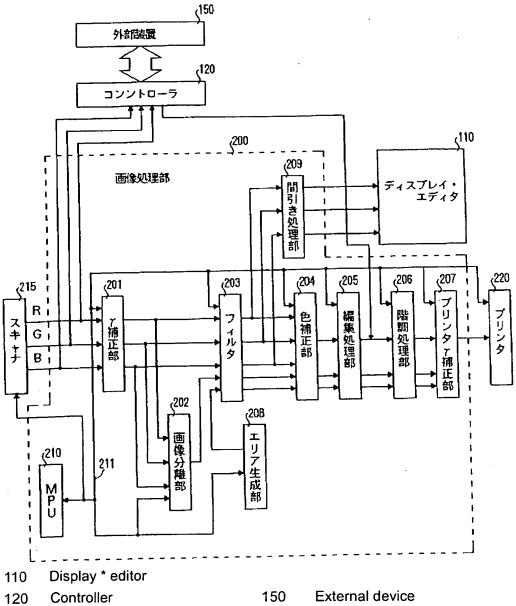
401	Image clock formation part
402a	to the scanner
402b	to the (gamma) correction part
402c	to the filter
402d	to the color-correction part
402e	to the edit process part
402f	to the gradation process part
402g	to the printer (gamma) correction part
402h	to the printer
402i	to the image-separation part
402j	to the area-formation-part
402k	to the decimation process part

[図2]

[FIGURE 2]

02/07/03 31/34 (C) DERWENT



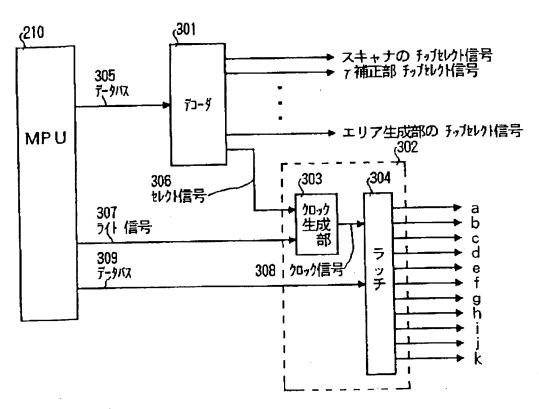


120	Controller	150	External device
200	Image-processing part	201	(gamma) Correction part
202	Image-separation part	203	Filter
204	Color-correction part	205	Edit process part
206	Gradation process part	207	Printer (gamma) correction part
208	Area-formation-part	209	Decimation process part
215	Scanner	220	Printer



【図3】

[FIGURE 3]



Decoder 301 Clock formation part 303 304 Latch Data bus 305 Selection signal 306 307 Light signal Clock signal 308 Data bus 309

Three Arrows from 301, at Right Top Corner, from the Top: Chip selection signal from the scanner Correction (gamma) part, chip selection signal Chip selection signal of area-formation-part